

The Bel Aire Breeze

Vol. 7, No. 6

JULY 2012

Complimentary copy

Council approves controversial zone change

By Matt Heilman

It was a decision the Bel Aire council didn't take lightly, but at the end of the day, city leaders decided that the benefit of all residents exceeded the concerns of a few.

At its June 5 meeting, the council approved a zone change for a second addition of the Elk Creek housing

community near 45th North and Rock Road that paves the way for patio homes to be built on about 27 undeveloped acres. The zone change was from an R-5, low density zoning, to R-3, which enables more homes to be built closer together.

The types of homes planned for construction are referred to as courtyard homes because each has its own

private courtyard, said Scott Lehner, owner of Wichita-based Perfection Builders LLC, which has a sales contract with the city to purchase lots in Elk Creek to build the homes.

Elk Creek residents weren't so much concerned with the quality of the courtyard homes as they were with the zoning change and how the smaller units built in a close proximity would

affect neighboring home sales and property values.

Lehner said the plan for the second addition of Elk Creek calls for the construction of about 90 courtyard homes on the 27-acre site, which is west of the current upscale homes in the development that are priced in the \$300,000 to \$500,000 range.

At the council's May 15 meeting,

Elk Creek homeowners Bob Cook and Mahlon McCaleb said they were working on a marketing plan to spur home sales in Elk Creek and believed that a zone change would have a negative impact for potential homebuyers who liked the spaciousness and layout of Elk Creek.

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Photos by Matt Heilman

The second-floor hallway includes an aerial view of the library in Bel Aire's new USD 259 high school. The school will hold its first day of classes Aug. 15.

Construction on schedule for new Bel Aire schools

By Matt Heilman

The Wichita School district's two large construction projects are near completion. Next month, the two new USD 259 schools will open their doors to about 1,200 students along with teachers, staff members and administrators.

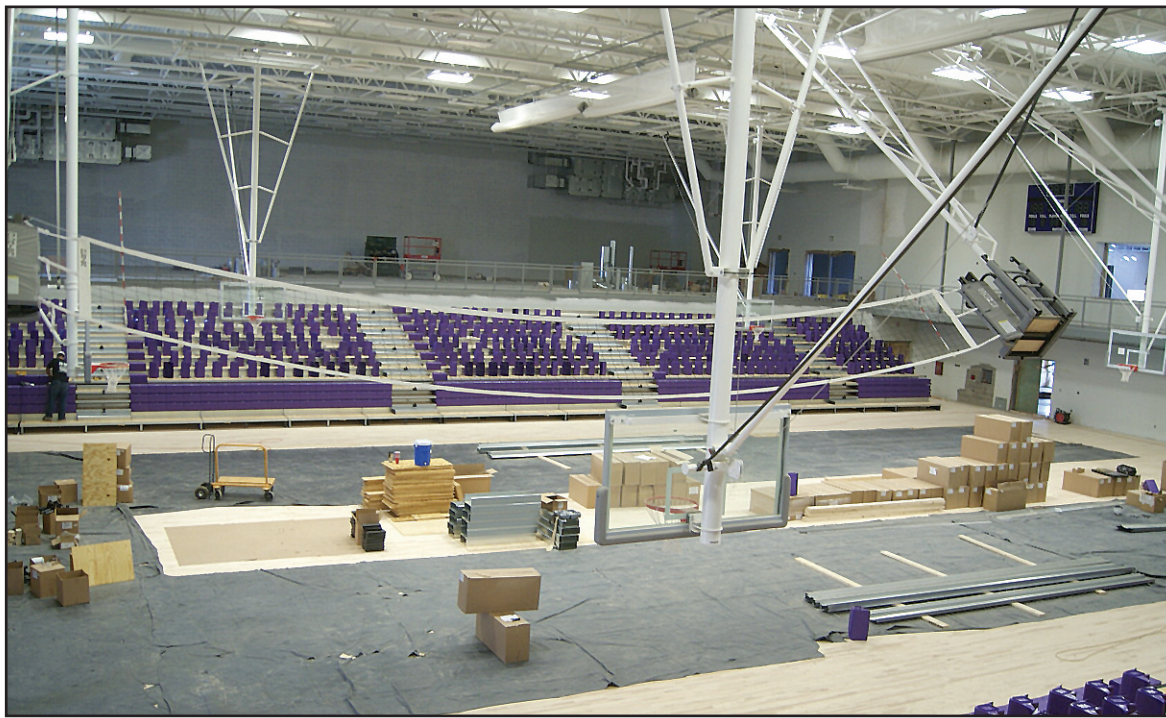
The new home for Wichita's Northeast Magnet High School sits near the corner of 53rd North and Rock Road. Northeast is a pure magnet program, which draws students from across the district who have to apply to attend the school.

The high school will also welcome 25 percent of incoming freshmen living within the Wichita Heights district.

At the corner of 53rd North and Woodlawn, Bel Aire's K-5 school will serve as the new home for Isley Traditional Magnet Elementary. As a neighborhood magnet, Isley will welcome students living in the city of Bel Aire, as well as current Isley students.

Students living within Wichita's northeast quadrant for the magnet program had the option to apply for bus-ing to attend Isley, Bel Aire resident and Isley secretary Tammy Hager said.

She said students living outside the neighborhood boundary and northeast magnet quadrant could also apply



Bel Aire's new USD 259 high school includes a large gym and an indoor pool for physical education classes. The new school has been designated as the new home for Wichita's Northeast Magnet High School.

to attend the school, but most of the student population next year will consist of students from Bel Aire and northeast Wichita.

Both new schools in Bel Aire have room for growth and students and teachers will experience upgraded facilities and plenty of space.

The new home for Northeast Magnet High School is about 190,000 square feet and will start with between 600 and 700 students, or about one-third of its capacity.

"We're starting slow and building from there," said Wichita public schools communications specialist Susan Arensman.

When the \$370 million bond issue was passed in 2008, the plan was for the school to open as a traditional high school to help with overcrowding concerns at Heights.

Budget cuts from the state forced the school board to re-evaluate its plan. Someday, the hope is that there will be enough area growth for the

school to transition into a traditional high school and still keep the magnet program.

For now, the new, large gymnasium will be used primarily for physical education classes and work on a new football stadium has been placed on the backburner.

The new high school, built on two levels, is home to large classrooms and includes a swimming pool and a band room, which Northeast Mag-

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Bel Aire soldier honored

Plaque recognizes sacrifice

By Matt Heilman

About one year after making the ultimate sacrifice for his country, an American soldier and Bel Aire native was honored at a May 24 dedication

at Fort Campbell in Kentucky. Sgt. Thomas Bohall was one of six soldiers killed in action last year, representing the Fourth Battalion, 101st Aviation Regiment, 159th Combat Aviation Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault).

The soldiers were killed in Afghanistan on May 26, 2011, from an improvised explosive device. On May 24, the headquarters of the unit Bohall represented at Fort Campbell was dedicated to the six fallen

soldiers who were part of a group called the Pathfinders.

Among the group on hand to honor the soldiers was Bohall's mother, Lorna Geist.

Geist still lives in Bel Aire with Bohall's sister and stepfather. At the May 24 dedication, Geist said a commemorative plaque was affixed to the

See BOHALL, Page 6

City nears completion of industrial park master plan

By Matt Heilman

The undeveloped 800 acres running east along 53rd North from Webb to Greenwich Roads won't be a large empty field forever. At least not if the City of Bel Aire can help it.

Working with a consulting team, the city has developed a master plan for the industrial park property that is near completion after about four months in the works.

In late March, Lasher said the master plan was already drawing some interest from potential developers.

In mid June, he announced that the city was negotiating an agreement for the first tenant to move into the industrial park and had heard from a couple more companies that are considering a move to Bel Aire.

Lasher said he couldn't disclose the names of the interested businesses until agreements are finalized, but he said the first tenant wants to start working in the park by Jan. 1 and construction could begin by October.

To prepare for dirt to start moving, the city is trying to have a plat for the 800 acres finalized by Aug. 1. The plat is part of the fourth and final phase of the master plan, which involves putting together the previous three phases and providing design guidelines for the industrial park.

The first phase of the industrial park master plan involved looking at the assets available on the

See PARK, Page 2

Bel Aire makes wise move with industrial park master plan

A popular saying goes that “if you fail to plan, you plan to fail.” For the City of Bel Aire, failure isn’t an option.

There’s a lot of potential on the city’s 800-acre industrial park, and city leaders should be commended for their commitment to tap into that potential. Patience is hard to maintain when you’re trying to crawl out from a heavy debt load and want development to happen as soon as possible, but the decision to hire consultants to help develop a master plan for the industrial park was a wise move that will more than pay off in the long run.

A lot of time and energy has gone into the master plan and it has made an impression on potential developers. In mid-June, City Manager Ty Lasher said the city was soon hoping to finalize an agreement for the first tenant to move into the industrial park.

He wouldn’t disclose the identity of the business until the agreement is finalized, but he said the hope was to have the first tenant operating in the park by the New Year with construction starting as early as October. Lasher said two other businesses had also expressed interest in moving to the industrial park, which has been named The Sunflower Commerce Park.

In a shaky economy, it’s difficult to get too excited about such news until dirt actually starts to move. It’s easy to be cynical and to sit back with the “I’ll believe it when I see it” attitude.

Admittedly, development has been slow in Bel Aire and no group of people is more aware or frustrated with that than the city council. Even if for some reason the businesses currently interested in Bel Aire all change their minds and locate elsewhere, the master plan has made a positive impact and has positioned the city to experience some long-term success.

— The Bel Aire Breeze

Wish America a happy 236th birthday

It’s that time of year again where scissors attack the sleeves on old T-shirts and my feet feel suffocated in socks and shoes. It’s the time to watch baseball and fall asleep with the ceiling fan running at full power.

It’s the time to stick my head in the freezer and just stand there for a good 10 minutes after mowing my yard. It’s the time to chase lightning bugs, sit in a lawn chair and appreciate America as she approaches 236 years old.

On her birthday, I plan to take in a few events at Park City’s annual “Salute to Freedom” celebration and spend time with family and friends on my parents’ property northeast of Valley Center.

We’ll light colorful noisemakers and take a moment to observe the irony that a Communist nation is credited for creating the first fireworks, which are now used as bold expressions of



Heil on life
By Matt Heilman

capitalism that proudly profess our democracy.

Whether it is a beautiful skyworks display shot out of artillery shells after the sun goes down or colorful smoke bombs that make the yard look like a psychedelic battlefield, I feel a sense of patriotism when there are fireworks around. And I appreciate the brave men who made the good times possible.

As George Washington led his troops across the Delaware River, he

had his eyes on the prize.

I like to think he encouraged the fighting spirit in his men by having them envision a future where America’s children laugh hysterically as small cardboard chickens emit sparks out of their butts. When Patrick Henry delivered his famous line, “Give me Liberty, or Give Me Death,” to the Virginia Convention in 1775, I like to think he was also thinking, “Give my descendants watermelon, hot dogs, lil smokies and a cooler full of beer!”

When the Declaration of Independence was finished on July 4, 1776, the brave men who signed the document did so, so that 21 decades later, Lee Greenwood could write “God Bless the USA,” arguably our nation’s most patriotic song besides “The Star Spangled Banner.”

When you celebrate America’s birthday this year, take a moment

to reflect and appreciate the country you live in and the blessings you’ve been given. No matter how bad our economy sucks or the rest of the world doesn’t like us, we’re still number one.

And that’s not gonna change! At least I hope not.
Happy Fourth of July!

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The Bel Aire Breeze

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Schools

Continued from Page 1

net students didn’t have at their former home at 1847 N. Chataqua in Wichita. The high school also includes an auditorium featuring a large stage and an orchestra pit.

The auditorium can seat about 1,000 people and is one of the few spaces in the school without windows. Natural light comes in through large windows along the wide hallways where there is enough space on either side for students to sit and socialize between classes.

The new home for Isley Elementary doesn’t have as many windows as the new high school, but students will get to spend more time outside

during recesses.

Arensman said construction is on schedule at both of Bel Aire’s new schools, although Isley is further along than Northeast Magnet. On June 19, new Isley Principal Kathy Stybr said the library and most of the classrooms were ready for furniture to be delivered.

Among the attractions at Bel Aire’s new K-5 school is a gymnasium that doubles as a FEMA shelter and an auditorium that can seat about 800 people. Classrooms include mounted projectors and smart boards along with additional space, Stybr said.

The approximately 130,000-square-foot building called “the new Isley” will welcome about 450 students when school starts on Aug. 15, Stybr said.



The K-8 building at 53rd North and Woodlawn in Bel Aire is the new home for Isley Traditional Magnet Elementary and will open to kindergartners through fifth-graders when school starts.

Park

Continued from Page 1

property, including the infrastructure and how the land was zoned. Once of the key assets that drew interest in the early stages of planning was the Union Pacific rail line that runs through the property.

The second phase of the master plan was a market analysis where consultants took a look at trending industries to try to determine what types of businesses would be best suited to build in the park.

In the early planning stages, consultant Jeff Lackey, an engineer with Kansas City-based TransSystems said the biggest growth trends are in professional and business services, especially the health care industry.

At a council meeting in February, Lackey discussed potential opportunities with composites to aid in the medical field as a potential industry that could be well suited in the industrial park.

Other options discussed by the consultants that could be good fits for the industrial park included call centers and education centers, as well

as retail space.

In the third phase, residents were given a chance to weigh in on plans for the industrial park and to help establish a name and logo for the park. From the input, city leaders and consultants have named the industrial park, the Sunflower Commerce Park.

The consultants said the term “commerce park” more accurately reflects the land’s potential beyond just industrial use.

With its master plan near completion and ready to present to developers, the city has worked with the Greater Wichita Economic Devel-

opment Council to help establish a certification plan through the State of Kansas. The certification recognizes the industrial park as a “shovel-ready” site and is meant to give potential developers from out of state a better opportunity to hear what Bel Aire has to offer.

“We can say we have a great work force and the cost of living here is low, but if a site selector is looking for certified sites and we don’t have any, they won’t even look at us,” Lasher said after the council approved the second phase of the industrial park master plan in late March.

CHURCH HIGHLIGHTS

Christ Lutheran Church

Contemporary guitar service with communion each Sunday at 8:30 a.m. Traditional service at 11 with communion each Sunday. Sunday school for all ages at 9:45 a.m.

The church is located at 5356 N. Hillside (53rd North and Hillside, across from Heights High School).

Find the church online at www.christ-lutheran.org; e-mail office@clc.kscoxmail.com. Call the office at 744-1242 for more information.

Church of the Resurrection

Church of the Resurrection (Roman Catholic) is located at 4910 N. Woodlawn in Bel Aire.

Masses for the Lord’s Day are 5:30 p.m. Saturday and 8:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday. Weekday Masses are 8 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday; also at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Resurrection Catholic School has students from pre-school through eighth grade.

The parish/school website is www.resurrectionwichita.com. Phone number is 744-2776. Rev. James F. Weldon is the pastor.

Community Bible Chapel

The church is located at 4551 Auburn, south of 45th North between Oliver and Woodlawn, in Bel Aire.

Worship service and breaking of the bread are at 9 a.m., with Bible study and Sunday school at 10:30 on Sundays.

Wednesday prayer and Bible study are at 7 p.m. For more information, call Melvan Adair at 744-7091.

Crossroads Friends Church

Crossroads Friends Church meets at Stucky Middle School (east from 45th North and Hillside) at 10:30 a.m. every Sunday.

The church has Crossroads Kids and Crossroads Cribs ministry areas, as well as contemporary music, relevant Bible teaching and a laid-back, friendly atmosphere.

Pastor is Jeff Mullen. Call the church office at 361-0407 or visit it online at www.crossroadswichita.com.

Fairmount United Church of Christ

The church welcomes a new minister, Rev. Larry Young.

Visit the newly renovated building at 1605 Fairmount in Wichita (one block south and one block east of Hillside and 17th North).

Sunday worship is at 10:30 a.m. which includes Children’s Church. Sunday School begins at 9:30.

For more information, call 682-1597 or visit at www.fairmountucc.org.

Gospel Assembly Church

Located at 4230 N. Oliver in Bel Aire, service times are 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday. Bible study is 7 p.m. Monday. Prayer service is 7 p.m. Tuesday. Praise and worship is 7 p.m. Wednesday.

Phone number is 744-1502. Rev. Gary D. Green is the pastor.

Greenwich United Methodist Church

Sunday worship service is at 9 a.m. Fellowship and coffee following the service.

Pastor Natalie can be reached at 773-2300 or 744-0203.

Pastor Natalie is at the church from 5:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursdays.

Visit the church online at Greenwichsumc.org.

The church is located about a mile south of K-254 on Greenwich Road.

Kechi United Methodist Church

The church is located at 4533 E. 61st North in Kechi. The Rev. Guy E. Rendoff is the pastor. Phone number is 744-1221, website is www.kechi-umc.org and e-mail address is kechiumpc@sbeglobal.net.



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Sunday worship and praise band is at 9:03 a.m., Sunday school is at 10 and worship is at 11.

Wednesday evening worship services are from 7 to 7:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. There will be music, prayer time and a short sermon. Child-care is provided.

Park City Church of the Nazarene

Sunday school for all ages is at 9:30 a.m. Worship and children’s church are at 10:45. Wednesday Bible study for adults begins with sandwiches and chips at 6:15 p.m.

The church is located at 2100 E. 61st North in Park City.

Pine Valley Christian Church

The church is located at 5620 E. 21st North. Sunday school is at 9 a.m. with worship at 10:15. For more information call 685-2421.

Risen Savior Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod

Contemporary Sunday worship services at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Communion on the first and third Sunday. Adult Sunday school and Bible class meet at 9:15 a.m. Children’s church at 10:30. A nursery is provided during Bible class and second service.

Wednesday evening ministries are from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Wednesday evening adult praise choir rehearsal is from 7 to 8 p.m.

The church is located at 6770 E. 34th North in Wichita. The phone number is 683-5538. The fax number is 683-5536. www.risensavior.net


University United Methodist Church

The church is located across from the Wichita State University campus at 21st and Yale.

Sunday activities include adult and youth educational classes at 9:15 a.m., traditional service at 10:30 and youth group activities from 4 to 6 p.m.

E-mail uume2220@uumc.net; phone 686-6765. Rev. Charles Claycomb is the pastor.

Send your church’s upcoming events and service times to legals@arkvalleynews.com or call 755-0821.




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City of Bel Aire



Central Park Pool

7350 E. Central Park Ave. • 744-7331

Summer Passes Individual (ages 12 & older): \$50 for the remaining season Family: 2 adults and dependent children residing in the home, \$75 for the remaining season	Rentals Have your next party at the pool! Rental packages are available after normal business hours. Rentals are subject to availability. Up to 25 patrons: \$40/hour Over 25 patrons (limit of 50 patrons): \$60/hour
Daily Fees Under age 12 (must be accompanied by an adult): \$2 per day Over age 12: \$3 per day	Group lessons Members: \$35/session Non-Members: \$44/session Morning sessions: 7/9-7/20, 7/23-8/3; 11-11:45 a.m. & noon-12:45 p.m. Evening sessions: 7/9-7/20, 7/23-8/3; 7-7:45 p.m.
Hours (subject to change) Weekdays: Swim lessons 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Open swim 1 to 7 p.m. Swim lessons 7 to 8 p.m. Weekends (Sat and Sun) : 1 to 6 p.m.	Private lessons Available by appointment and subject to availability.

Bel Aire Recreation

5251 E. 48th North • www.belaireks.gov • 744-2700

Mon., Tue., & Thur. 8-8 • Wed. & Fri. 8-7 • Sat. 9-3

For more information on these or any Bel Aire Recreation Programs call 744-2700.

SUMMER DANCE WORKSHOPS (ages 4-11) Bel Aire Recreation has partnered with Jennie Thompson, a collegiate dance major, to bring you several dance workshops this summer. Instruction will include ballet, jazz, and other forms of dance. The workshop will be offered July 21st for ages 4-11. Please call for more information.	TAEKWONDO (ages 5 & up) Classes meet on Monday & Friday from 5:00-6:00 pm or Tuesday & Thursday from 7:10-8:10 pm. These are great classes for beginners to black belts.
SUMMER BASKETBALL CAMP (ages 6-11) Bel Aire Recreation has partnered with Brent Atwater, a former collegiate player and coach, to bring you several basketball clinics and camps throughout the year. Atwater's programs stress the fundamentals of basketball which make them perfect for kids of all ages and skills. The summer camp will run from July 16-19. The registration deadline is July 7.	YOGA Classes are held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 6:10-7:10 pm. Participants need to provide their own yoga mat. Adults can join at any time! Teens & adults can join at any time!
ZUMBA Zumba is a Latin-inspired, dance-fitness class that incorporates Latin and international music and dance movements, creating a dynamic, exciting, exhilarating, and effective fitness system. Classes are held on Mondays & Thursdays from 6:00-7:00 pm. Teens & adults can join at any time!	FITNESS CENTER (ages 16 & up) The Fitness Center consists of elliptical cross trainers, treadmills, recumbent bike, multi-station weight machine, and free-weights. There is no charge for pass holders, or it is available with the purchase of a daily pass.
	FLAG FOOTBALL/OUTDOOR SOCCER We are currently accepting early registrations for Youth Coed Flag Football and Youth Coed Outdoor Soccer. Registration deadline is August 18th.

Community Events

TOPS – Tuesdays, 9 a.m. at the Senior Center
July 14th – 6 p.m. - Red Hat's Swim Party, for info call Anita at 744-2840
July 16th – Central Park HOA meeting at the Senior Center
July 16th -- Bel Aire Heights HOA meeting in the Community Room
July 18th, 4-6 p.m. – UAC Meeting at the Senior Center
July 18th, 7 p.m. – Tree Board Meeting at the Senior Center

City of Bel Aire receives Sunflower Foundation Grant

The City of Bel Aire has received word from the Topeka-based Sunflower Foundation: Health Care for Kansans that it has been awarded a grant by the organization. The grant the City will receive totals \$15,000 and will be used to construct a concrete walking trail that will connect an existing walking trail in Central Park to the newly built Isley Traditional Magnet Elementary. This trail will provide a safe way for young children to walk to and from school, and also be a great resource for other citizens in the community to utilize as a walking trail. Wichita Public Schools has generously partnered with the City of Bel Aire by donating \$10,000 to help cover project costs that exceed the grant amount. The Sunflower Foundation, created in 2000, is a philanthropic organization with the mission to serve as a catalyst for improving the health of Kansans, which it supports through a program of grants, awards and related activities. The City of Bel Aire is proud to partner with The Sunflower Foundation and Wichita Public Schools to ensure the safety of local students and provide an opportunity for greater health and physical activity for all citizens.

CITY OF BEL AIRE CONTACTS

City Council

Mayor Harold Smith	744-2650
Dr. Gary Breault	744-0560
Peggy O'Donnell	744-0250
Moe Terbonne	744-2747
David Austin	744-7188
Dave Sly	204-5574

City Hall

Ty Lasher, City Manager	744-2451, ext. 217
Recreation Department	744-2700
Central Park Pool	744-7331
Parks Department	744-8609
Police • Emergency	911
• Non-emergency	744-6000
Animal Control (Sedgwick County)	660-7070
Public Works	744-2888
Water/Sewer Emergency (after 5 p.m.)	761-6972 or 761-6973
Utility Billing	744-2451, ext. 132
Trash (Waste Connections)	838-4920
Hazardous Waste (Sedgwick County)	660-7464

Bel Aire Seniors

All SENIORS 55+ are cordially invited to all events listed below. The Senior Center and Library area is open from 8 A.M. to 5 P.M. Monday through Friday excluding holidays. The library has a wide selection of library books to check out at no cost nor time restraints, along with computers available for study or research. Remember any senior can belong or attend to more than one senior center/club in Sedgwick County.

Locations:

Senior Center/Community Room – 7651 E. Central Park Ave., 744-2451
Recreation Center – 5251 E. 48th St. N., 744-2700

Weekly Events:

Bel Aire Walkers – M-F, 8-9 a.m. at the Rec Center (indoors & climate controlled)
Free for BA Senior members, alternate times available
Men's Coffee & Fellowship – Mondays, 10 a.m. at the Senior Center
Yoga – Mondays & Wednesdays, 6 p.m. at the Rec Center (monthly fee)
Bridge Games – Tuesdays, 1 p.m. at the Senior Center
Low Impact Aerobics – Wednesdays, 9 a.m. at the Rec Center
Braum's Breakfast – Fridays, 9:00 a.m. on North Rock Road

Monthly & Special Events:

July 2nd, 6:30 p.m. — Barbeque & Potluck Dinner - Community Room
July 3rd, 8:30 a.m. – Breakfast at Neighbors, 2150 N. Amidon
July 9th, 10 a.m. – RS Advisory Meeting at the Rec Center
July 9th, 11:30 a.m. – Lunch at Cinnamon's Deli, 9747 E. 21st.
July 10th, 9:00 a.m. – CS Advisory Meeting at the Rec Center
July 11th, 10 a.m. – Volunteer library work time at the Senior Center
July 17th, Ladies Dine Out - for info call Anita at 744-2840
July 18th, 10 a.m. – Men's Coffee at Braum's on North Rock Road
July 18th, 10:15 a.m. – Senior Aerobics Brunch (different locations)
July 18th, 2 p.m. – Ladies Tea/Coffee at Braum's on North Rock Road
July 20th, 7 p.m. – Movie Night at the Senior Center
July 23rd, 6 p.m. – Covered Dish Dinner & Making of the American Flag program
July 25th, 10 a.m. – Open Sewing at the Senior Center
July 25th, 7 p.m. – Bunko games at the Senior Center
July 27th, 7 p.m. – Pitch Night at the Senior Center

***FYI:** For any possible cancellations due to inclement winter weather conditions, call 744-2700 or 744-2451.*

**The following activities are being planned and dates TBA; Kechi Playhouse, Prairie Rose Chuckwagon Supper, Fire Safety, & Medication presentations.*

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Citizens interested in serving as volunteers for the City of Bel Aire, in any capacity, are strongly encouraged to
contact City Manager
Ty Lasher at
(316) 744-2451 or
tlasher@belaireks.gov

CITY COUNCIL VACANCY

If you are a registered voter in the City of Bel Aire and would be interested in serving on the City Council,
please submit a resume and/or letter of reference to Mayor Harold Smith
at 7651 E. Central Park Ave., Bel Aire, KS 67226. Deadline for submission is July 10th, 2012.

John R. Daily, Chief of Bel Aire Police Department & Kansas State Fire Marshal wishes all family and friends to have a safe and enjoyable summer. Under City Ordinance #485, Section 17 states that you have to be at least 14 years old to set off fireworks, and if you're under the age of 14, you must have adult supervision to detonate fireworks. Hours for detonating fireworks is between 9:00 a.m. and midnight on July 4th. Here's a few tips for keeping safe this holiday:

- **Always read and follow label instructions.**
- **Always purchase high quality fireworks form a reliable, legitimate source.**
- **Alcohol and fireworks do not mix. Have a "designated shooter."**
- **Never give fireworks to small children.**
- **Adults should always supervise the use of fireworks by older children.**
- **Always wear eye protection when lighting fireworks**
- **Never ignite fireworks indoors. Make sure your outdoor area is safe for firework use.**
- **Never point or throw fireworks at a person, building, or animal.**
- **Have a source of water handy, in case of fire.**
- **Never shoot fireworks in metal or glass containers.**
- **Light only one firework at a time.**
- **Never attempt to re-light malfunctioning fireworks.**
- **When lighting fireworks, never position any part of your body over them.**
- **Never carry fireworks in your pocket.**
- **Store fireworks in a cool, dry place.**
- **Never experiment with homemade fireworks. They are dangerous and illegal.**
- **Bottle rockets and other skyrockets that are mounted on a stick or wire are illegal.**
- **It is illegal to shoot fireworks on or under a vehicle, on any public roadway, within 50 feet of a firework stand or where fireworks are stored, and gas stations or any place liquid gas — including propane — is stored.**

POLICE REPORTS

June 13 — Lt. Griggs assisted EMS in the 4200 block of North Woodlawn. A woman was taken to the hospital.

June 13 — Lt. Griggs responded to a two-vehicle non-injury accident at 6254 E. 37th North.

June 12 — Lt. Griggs assisted EMS in the 6500 block of East Perryton. A man was taken to the hospital.

June 12 — Officer Swanson responded to an alarm in the 4800 block of North Farmstead. The residence was secure.

June 11 — Officer Foxx responded to a report of an explosion in the 6100 block of East Clarendon. A transformer was blown.

June 11 — Officer Swanson responded to a possible suicidal subject in the 6000 block of East Clarendon. A man was taken to the hospital.

June 11 — Officer Agon responded to assist a citizen who had fallen in the 6600 block of East 44th Court.

June 11 — Officer Agon responded to a report of a theft in the 7900 block of East Caribou. The suspects were located. They returned a picnic table, two flower pots and a pool water pump.

June 11 — Officer Swanson assisted EMS in the 4400 block of North St. James Place. No one was transported.

June 11 — Officer Steele stopped a vehicle in the 5300 block of North Woodlawn. Shalom M. Schuler was arrested on a Wichita warrant and was cited for driving with a suspended license and no proof of insurance.

June 10 — Officer Foxx responded to a burglary at Subway in the 6200 block of East 37th North. A glass door was broken and a cash drawer that had no money was taken. Loss was estimated at \$700.

June 10 — Officer Foxx responded to an alarm in the 6300 block of East 37th. An employee accidentally set off the alarm.

June 10 — Officer Swanson assisted firefighters with a person who needed help getting off the floor in the 6600 block of East 44th North.

June 10 — Officer Steele discovered an unsecured entrance at the high school under construction at 5550 N. Lycee. There were no signs of suspicious activity.

June 9 — Officer Foxx responded to a report of an explosion in the 6500 block of East Perryton. It was a blown transformer.

June 9 — Officer Foxx assisted firefighters on a house fire in the 3900 block of Cozy. The fire was determined to be an electrical problem with the water heater.

June 9 — Officer Mavia discovered two unsecured doors at the school under construction in the 5200 block of North Woodlawn. There were no signs of suspicious activity.

June 9 — Officer Mavia responded to a report of a suspicious character in the 5900 block of East Flagstaff. Officer did not find any signs of suspicious activity.

June 9 — Officer Steele discovered an unsecured door at the school under construction in the 5200 block of North Woodlawn. There were no signs of suspicious activity.

June 9 — Officer Steele discovered an unsecured door at the high school under construction at 5550 N. Lycee. There were no signs of suspicious activity.

June 8 — Lt. Griggs responded to a report of credit card fraud. A card number was used to purchase \$475 worth of items on the Internet.

June 8 — Lt. Griggs responded to a domestic disturbance between a mother and her son in the 4500 block of North St. James. The son agreed to leave for the evening.

June 8 — Lt. Griggs responded to a residential alarm in the 5600 block of East 49th North. Everything was OK.

June 8 — Officer Mavia responded to check the welfare of two children in the 4100 block of North Parkwood. The children were in good condition.

June 8 — Officer Steele discovered an unsecured door at the high school under construction at 5550 N. Lycee. There were no signs of suspicious activity.

June 8 — Officer Steele responded to an alarm in the 3900 block of North Woodlawn Court. The building was secured.

June 7 — Lt. Griggs took a report of trespassing at the sewage pump station in the 5800 block of East 53rd North.

June 7 — Chief Dailey took a report of the theft of a cell phone.

June 7 — Officer Swanson responded to a disabled vehicle in the 5600 block of East 37th North. A tire came off of a vehicle.

June 7 — Officer Mavia assisted EMS with an infant choking in the 5800 block of East 49th North. The child was OK.

June 7 — Officer Foxx checked the welfare of a man standing on railroad tracks near a moving train in the 2000 block of East 37th North. Park City police transported the man to a hotel.

June 6 — Officer Swanson assisted firefighters with a person who needed help getting off the floor in the 6600 block of East 44th North.

June 5 — Lt. Griggs responded to a verbal domestic disturbance between a man and his son in the 5900 block of East Perryton. The argument was about the son smoking marijuana. The son turned over a small amount of marijuana. He was released to his father.

June 5 — Lt. Griggs took a report from Enterprise that a plastic bag with multiple colored capsules was found in a vehicle in the 6300 block of East 37th North.

June 5 — Officer Swanson responded to a fire alarm at Catholic Care Center in the 6800 block of East 45th North. The sprinkler system was leaking and lost pressure.

June 5 — Officer Mavia responded to a dog on the loose in the 4300 block of North Eagle Lake. Officer was unable to find its owner, so he took it to the Kansas Humane Society.

June 5 — Officer Mavia took a report of a suspicious person walking in a neighborhood late the night before in the 5000 block of North Colonial Court.

June 5 — Officer Steele discovered an unsecured door at the school under construction in the 5200 block of North Woodlawn. There were no signs of suspicious activity.

June 5 — Officer Steele discovered an open gate at Tree Top Nursery in the 5900 block of East 37th North. There were no signs of suspicious activity.

June 4 — Lt. Griggs responded to a holdup alarm on a residence in

the 4200 block of North Eagle Lake Court. Everything was OK.

June 4 — Lt. Griggs responded to check the welfare of an elderly female in the 6200 block of East Perryton. Everything was OK.

June 4 — Officer Swanson discovered several mattresses and box springs in a ditch in the 10500 block of East 45th North.

June 4 — Officer Steele discovered an open gate at Enterprise in the 6300 block of East 37th North. The gate was broken.

June 4 — Police assisted a stranded motorist at City Hall, 7651 E. Central Park.

June 3 — Officer Foxx assisted EMS at the fire station in the 4300 block of North Woodlawn. A man was taken to the hospital.

June 3 — Officer Swanson took a report fraud report in the 6000 block of East Clarendon. A man applied for a \$5,000 loan from a Kingston, Jamaica, company that promised to deposit the money in the man's account after he sends them \$500 by Western Union. The man sent the \$500 but didn't receive the loan. The man closed all of his bank accounts.

June 3 — Officer Steele discovered multiple unsecured entrances at the high school under construction at 5550 N. Lycee. There were no signs of suspicious activity.

June 2 — Officer Foxx assisted Park City police on a suicidal subject. A person was taken to the hospital.

June 2 — Officer Foxx responded to check a residence with an open door in the 4400 block of Westlake Court.

June 2 — Officer Foxx responded to an alarm in the 5400 block of East 49th North. The alarm was deemed false.

June 2 — Officer Steele discovered an unsecured door at the school under construction in the 5200 block of North Woodlawn. There were no

signs of suspicious activity.

June 2 — Officer Steele discovered an unsecured door at the high school under construction at 5550 N. Lycee. There were no signs of suspicious activity.

June 1 — Lt. Griggs responded to an alarm in the 7800 block of East Turquoise. The alarm was false.

June 1 — Lt. Griggs checked a residence with an open garage door and no vehicle in the vicinity. Officer closed the door.

June 1 — Lt. Griggs responded to a two-vehicle, non-injury wreck in the 5900 block of East 41st North.

June 1 — Officers responded to a burglary in progress in the 4800 block of North Farmstead Court. The house was cleared.

June 1 — Officer Mavia responded to a report of disorderly conduct in the 4100 block of North Auburn.

June 1 — Officer Mavia responded to answer questions from parents about their daughter.

June 1 — Officer Steele discovered an unsecured door at the high school under construction at 5550 N. Lycee. There were no signs of suspicious activity.


June 1 — Officer Steele discovered an unsecured door at the school under construction in the 5200 block of North Woodlawn. There were no signs of suspicious activity.

June 1 — Officer Steele stopped

CORRECTION

Not arrested

Officer Foxx was not arrested on May 12. An entry in the June edition of The Bel Aire Breeze was incorrect. The Breeze regrets the error.



"No one deserves to be the victim of a violent crime"

As District Attorney, Marc Bennett will:

- Implement new programs, such as a targeted offender program to identify criminals who most frequently target our businesses and elderly citizens.
- Expand current programs, such as financial crimes against senior citizens.
- Continue to be a voice for victims of crime and human trafficking.
- Ensure that law enforcement in smaller communities is included in the discussion.
- Foster an environment of openness and transparency, in which citizens know what decisions are made in the D.A.'s office and, when possible, why.


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- A VICTIMS' ADVOCATE
- serving on the boards for the Sedgwick County Child Advocacy Center and the Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center.

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a vehicle in the 5200 block of North Woodlawn. The driver was cited for speeding, driving with a suspended license and no insurance.

May 31 — Lt. Griggs checked the welfare of an elderly couple in the 4800 block of North Glendale. Everything appeared to be OK.

May 31 — Officer Mavia checked the welfare of three children in the 4000 block of North Auburn. They were OK.

May 31 — Officer Mavia responded to a report of a suspicious character in the 4400 block of Westlake Court. A man was selling home security systems but did not have a permit.

May 31 — Officer Foxx responded to a report of dogs barking in the 6600 block of East Rodeo Court.

May 31 — Officer Foxx responded to a report of a runaway in the 6100 block of East Danbury. The girl was found at a friend's house.

May 30 — Lt. Griggs assisted firefighters on a vehicle leaking fuel in a garage in the 4600 block of North Farmstead Court.

May 30 — Lt. Griggs assisted EMS with a person who fell from a ladder while painting in the 4900 block of North Highland, injuring her ankle.

She was taken to the hospital.

May 30 — Officer Swanson assisted EMS with a person who fell and hit her head on a flower pot at Tree Top Nursery in the 5900 block of East 37th North. The woman was taken to the hospital.

May 29 — Lt. Griggs responded to a report of disorderly conduct in the 4400 block of North Eagle Lake. A man received harassing phone calls from his brother-in-law.

May 29 — Officer Swanson responded to a child left in a car in the 6200 block of East 41st North. The child was OK.

May 29 — Officer Swanson responded to a stray dog found in the 6500 block of East Odessa. Officer was unable to find the dog's owner, so it was taken to the Wichita Animal Shelter.

May 29 — Officer Foxx assisted Wichita police on a burglary in progress in Wichita.

May 28 — Officer Swanson assisted Valley Center police with a disruptive crowd in Valley Center.

May 28 — Officer Swanson responded to a fireworks complain in

See POLICE, Page 5

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‘Compound’ leader to face jury on murder charge

By Matt Heilman

A week after witnesses presented testimony in a Sedgwick County courtroom, attorneys gave their final arguments June 7 in the preliminary hearing for Daniel U. Perez.

A judge ruled that there was enough evidence for Perez to stand trial on 38 charges, including sex crimes, falsifying documents

on car loans and life insurance applications and first-degree murder. The trial is set to begin at 9 a.m. July 30.

Prosecutors say Perez drowned 26-year-old Patricia Hughes in a pool at a property north of Kechi. The property on North Oliver includes a cluster of three homes where Perez and a close-knit group lived.

The group was known as “the family” and the property,

called Angels Landing, has been referred to as “a compound.”

When Hughes died in June 2003, it was initially believed that she had accidentally drowned while trying to save her 2-year-old daughter. It was believed that blunt trauma to her head could have been accidentally caused by emergency crews when they removed her lifeless body from the pool.

On May 30, a woman, who was a child at the compound when Hughes died, testified that Perez gave her a false story to report to authorities and instructed her on how to make Hughes’ death look like an accident.

Now 20, the woman testified about multiple sex crimes Perez allegedly committed against her and her sister. The defense argued that there wasn’t enough

evidence to link Perez to Hughes’ death and that the alleged sex-crime victims were never forced to stay with him.

They also argued that Perez didn’t force anyone in “the family” to falsify documents. While Perez, living under the alias of “Lou Castro,” wasn’t found to have signed any documents, the prosecution said he instructed people in his circle on what information to provide and directed

who would be the beneficiaries for life insurance payouts.

“If not for this false information, no one would have sold them a car, no one would have sold them life insurance, no one would have had anything to do with these people,” said Sedgwick County Deputy District Attorney Marc Bennett.

Perez did not enter a plea on any of the 38 charges.

Police

Continued from Page 4

the 6500 block of East Summerside. There were no signs of fireworks being used.

May 28 — Officer Steele responded to a suspicious character in the 4100 block of North Country Lane. An unknown person rang a doorbell and left.

May 28 — Officer Steele discovered an open door on a building in the 5200 block of North Woodlawn. There were no signs of suspicious activity.

May 27 — Officer Steele discovered an unsecured door on the high school under construction at 5550 N. Lycee. There were no signs of suspicious activity.

May 27 — Officer Steele discovered an unsecured door on a building in the 5200 block of North Woodlawn. There were no signs of suspicious activity.

May 26 — Officer Hutton responded to an alarm in the 5400 block of East Falcon Lane. There were no signs of criminal activity.

May 26 — Officer Hutton took a report of an auto theft in the 5900 block of East 37th North. A 2003 Ford Ranger was taken.

May 26 — Officer Foxx assisted EMS in the 4500 block of North Woodlawn. A woman was taken to the hospital.



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May 26 — Officer Foxx took a report of a vehicle being damaged in the 6900 block of East Odessa Court. Damage was estimated at more than \$1,000.

May 26 — Officer Foxx responded to a hit-and-run wreck in the 2500 block of East Odessa Court.

May 26 — Officer Foxx responded to a report of a suspicious character in the 4400 block of Westlake Court.

May 24 — Lt. Griggs took a report from Enterprise of a person not returning a vehicle.

May 24 — Officer Swanson responded to a report of domestic violence in the 4200 block of North Rushwood. Trevell Watson was arrested on a charge of domestic battery.

May 23 — Officer Swanson responded to a report of a suspicious

character at the rec center in the 5200 block of East 48th North. No one was found.

May 23 — Officer Foxx responded to a possible child abuse in the 6700 block of East 45th North. The reporting party did not know where the child was located but had a picture text of what appeared to be burns on the child’s arm.

May 23 — Officer Agon discov-

ered an unsecured door on a construction trailer in the 5500 block of North Lycee.

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HIGHLIGHTS

Several area students graduated from Newman University during the spring and summer.

Students from Bel Aire were Nathan Buzard, master of business administration with a leadership concentration; Linda Guebara, master of business administration with an international business concentration; Rod Kline, master of secondary education with curriculum and instruction emphasis in English as a second language; Clarence Moore, MTS; Ton-Vinh Nguyen, bachelor of science in biochemistry; and Kristal Overby, bachelor of science in counseling with a child and adolescent studies concentration.

Houses

Continued from Page 1

Cook, a longtime area homebuilder who moved into a repossessed Elk Creek home he purchased from his bank, said he's experienced success with aggressive marketing, including in The Oaks in Derby, where homes start at about \$400,000.

The council didn't discount Cook and McCaleb's ability to make a positive impact on the marketing front, but it also saw the need to get vacant lots developed sooner rather than later and didn't see any evidence from the planning commission or area realtors that the variation in home styles would negatively impact what's already in place in Elk Creek.

On the contrary, Mayor Harold Smith said the evidence shows that the addition of courtyard homes would positively impact property values. The evidence is in Watercress in Maize, where courtyard homes similar to what's planned in Phase 2 of Elk Creek neighbor homes upwards of \$500,000.

With the inclusion of the courtyard homes in Watercress, sales have increased throughout the development, Bel Aire City Manager Ty Lasher said.

Other examples provided by Lechner where patio or duplex-style homes successfully co-exist with more spacious properties are in the east Wichita housing communities of Crest-

Bohall

Continued from Page 1

building that served as the unit's headquarters.

As a Pathfinder, Bohall was a paratrooper whose responsibilities included set-

ting up drop zones, pick-up zones and helicopter landing sites for airborne operations in support of troops on the ground.

While still grieving over the loss of her son, Geist said it was important to remember the other five soldiers who

died alongside Bohall.

"Everybody, when you go down on the military bases, are just so overwhelmingly gracious," she said.

Last year, a little more than one week after his death, about 70 Wichita-area members of the American Legion

Riders honored Bohall with a tribute ride that included a presentation of a plaque, challenge coin and embroidered flag outside his family's Bel Aire home.

Bohall was buried on June 8, 2011, at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio. Geist said

her son had a lot of friends in San Antonio, where he lived with his father, Tim Bohall, during his last two years of high school. Bohall attended Heights High School during his freshman and sophomore years. He joined the U.S. Army in August 2005.

view and Wilson Estates.

Elk Creek resident Daryl Schmidt said a few offers that Cook had on his Bel Aire home were taken off the table once signs for rezoning went up. McCaleb works for a credit union and said that from his perspective as an economist, home sales in the \$350,000 to \$500,000 price range were improving and should remain the focus of development in Elk Creek.

The council didn't disagree with the points, but its members were unanimous in their feeling that overall, the construction of courtyard homes would have a positive impact on Elk Creek and help the city take another bite out of its land debt.

Council member David Austin pointed out that if nothing happens with the vacant lots in Elk Creek, the city would be saddled with an

immediate \$50,000 payment, which is the equivalent to a mill and a half in property taxes. He also reminded residents that most of the courtyard homes would be sold for at least \$200,000.

Smith said the vacant lots in Elk Creek were suited for a zoning change and pointed out that the planning commission already approved the change. Smith voted on the zoning change in place of council member Dave Sly who was absent.

Smith's vote was necessary because the zoning change required five votes.

The zoning change doesn't yet give the green light for Perfection Builders to start construction on the new homes in Elk Creek. Before dirt moves, the planning commission and council will have to iron out a builder's agreement with Perfection Builders

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